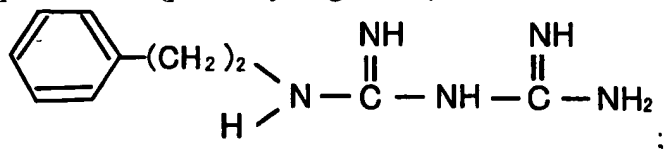


### IN THE SPECIFICATION

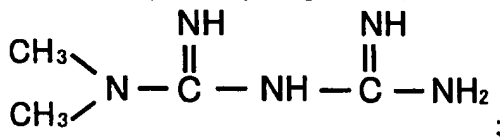
Please amend paragraph starting on page 6, line 3 and ending on page 7, line 2 of the specification as follows:

A carbonyl stress-decreasing agent of the present invention comprises a biguanide agent as the active ingredient. As used herein, the term "decreasing carbonyl stress" refers to reducing the reactivity of carbonyl compounds in a medium which is contacted with living bodies, and thus, alleviating protein modification. Specifically, for example, when a compound has a potential for adsorbing or removing carbonyl compounds, or a potential for reducing the reactivity to amino groups, then the compound is assumed to have the activity of relieving carbonyl stress. The term "medium which is contacted with living bodies" specifically refers to peritoneal dialysate, blood, and other body fluids. Biguanide agents that can be used in the present invention include the following compounds, and pharmacologically acceptable salts thereof:

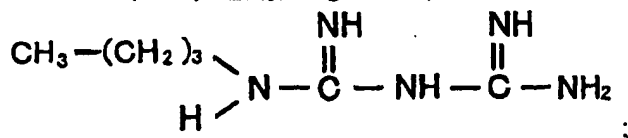
phenformin (phenethyl biguanide)



metformin (dimethyl biguanide)



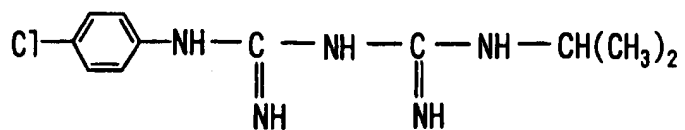
buformin (~~buthyl~~ butyl biguanide)



proguanil

In re Application of:  
Toshio Miyata  
Application No.: 10/089,789  
Filed: August 19, 2002  
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; and

chlorhexidine

